

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 NSC-05 /065 R

DRAFTED BY DOD/AFXO:FAPILLET:LR

APPROVED BY EUR:'GLO E;STEIN

DASD (ISA)- MWGLITMAN (DRAFT)

ATSAF (IA) - DJDOOLIN (DRAFT)

PM - GVEST (DRAFT)

C - JDOBBINS (DRAFT)

S/S - MR. ORTIZ

----- 118307

R 230220Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

SECDEF WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

CSAF WASHDC

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AFB GERMANY

CINCSAC OFFUTT AFB NEBRASKA

S E C R E T STATE 182197

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: GW, NATO, MARR, UK

SUBJECT: 306 STRATEGIC WING

1. DOD HAS ADVISED THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTENT TO
ACTIVATE THE 306 STRATEGIC WING (SW) HEADQUARTERS AT
RAMSTEIN AB, GERMANY. THE 306 SW IS TO BE A SMALL
HEADQUARTERS WITH APPROXIMATELY 20 PERSONNEL AND WILL HAVE

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NO AIRCRAFT BASED WITH IT. IT WILL BE ACTIVATED AT

RAMSTEIN IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO HEADQUARTERS USAFE IN ORDER TO PROVIDE TIMELY SUPPORT TO CINCUSAFE. THE HEADQUARTERS WILL BE ACTIVATED AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE AND WILL ASSUME OPERATIONAL CONTROL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ALL SAC RESOURCES IN EUROPE. THE 306 SW WILL BE INTRODUCED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE RELOCATION AND REORGANIZATION OF EUROPEAN TANKER UNITS REQUIRED BY THE WITHDRAWAL AND INACTIVATION OF THE 98 STRATEGIC WING AT TORREJON, SPAIN.

2. THE RELOCATION OF THE MAJORITY OF TANKER ASSETS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM ACCOMPANIED BY AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF NECESSARY SORTIES REQUIRES A SINGLE UNIT (THE 306 SW) TO PROVIDE CENTRALIZED OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF ALL SAC ASSETS IN THE THEATER. ACTIVATION OF THE 306 SW HEADQUARTERS WILL NOT RESULT IN A CHANGE IN THE NUMBER OF SAC TANKER AIRCRAFT PRESENTLY ASSIGNED TO OR PROGRAMMED

FOR EUROPE. THE 306 SW MUST BE ACTIVATED PRIOR TO THE INACTIVATION OF THE 98 SW IN ORDER TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE

COMMAND CONTINUITY. ALL DETACHMENTS OF THE 98 SW WILL BE REDESIGNATED AS DETACHMENTS OF THE 306 SW. THE NEW TANKER DETACHMENT TO BE ACTIVATED AT ZARAGOZA AB,

SPAIN WILL BECOME A DETACHMENT OF THE 306 SW. WE ANTICIPATE HAVING THE 306 SW ASSUME OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF SAC ASSETS SUPPORTING THE EUROPEAN THEATER IN OCTOBER

1976.

3. THE 306 SW WILL PROVIDE: A FLEXIBLE COMMAND STRUCTURE CAPABLE OF COORDINATING AVAILABLE SUPPORT MOST EFFECTIVELY IN RESPONSE TO USAFE'S NEEDS.

4. PUBLIC AFFAIRS GUIDANCE. NO PUBLIC NEWS MEDIA RELEASES WILL BE MADE ON THIS MATTER. JOINT STATE-DEFENSE PUBLIC AFFAIRS GUIDANCE MUST BE DEVELOPED IN WASHINGTON AND COORDINATED WITH THE FRG AND OTHER INVOLVED NATIONS. IN THE INTERIM, REFER QUERIES ON THIS
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MATTER TO OASD (PA).

5. FOR BONN. WITH YOUR CONCURRENCE, REQUEST APPROPRIATE STEPS BE TAKEN TO INFORM MOD BONN OF THE IMPENDING ACTIVATION OF THE 306 SW AND CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS.

6. FOR LONDON. ASSUMING NO OBJECTIONS FROM EMBASSY

BONN, REQUEST YOU SIMILARLY INFORM UK. ROBINSON

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NNN

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